

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5503
ANSWERED ON:15.05.2007
RESERVES OF TITANIUM
Bhakta Shri Manoranjan

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken any decision to explore the huge reserves of Titanium in the beach sands of north coastal area of Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the experts have pointed out that the entire east coast, right from Srikakulam to South coast is rich in rare minerals;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government in this regard to utilize the reserves of Titanium ?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA)

(a) & (b) : Atomic Minerals Directorate for Exploration and Research (AMD), under the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) has explored the resources of Titanium bearing minerals viz. Ilmenite, Rutile and Leucoxene in the north coastal part of Andhra Pradesh. Ilmenite (the main mineral of Titanium metal) resources of 61.22 million tonne have been identified by AMD in the districts, of Srikakulam, Vizianagaram and Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh.

(c) & (d) : Yes, Sir. AMD has identified a number of deposits containing rare minerals along the 982 km. coastline from Srikakulam in north to Tamil Nadu border in the south. The total Titanium mineral potential of Andhra Pradesh has been estimated to be around 153.7 million tonne comprising 139.73 million tonne of Ilmenite, 8.78 million tonne of Rutile and 5.20 million tonne of Leucoxene.

(e) : Under the Beach Sand Mineral Policy notified by the DAE on 16.10.1998, Government has allowed private sector participation for exploitation of Titanium bearing minerals in beach sands for better utilization of the reserves.